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The December Festivals and World Peace

Hanukah

MORRIS N. KERTZER

FOR MORE THAN TWENTY-ONE CENTURIES Jews have observed the Feast of Lights to commemorate the victory of the ancient Maccabees over their tyrannical rulers. This year, by a symbolic coincidence, the eight days of the Feast provide an ideal prelude to Human Rights day, December 10th, as we celebrate the Festival of Religious Freedom from December 2nd to December 9th.

The dominant theme of Hanukah is, of course, the message of religious liberty. According to the Book of Maccabees, the ancient Jews remained rather submissive to Syrian rule, accepting the heavy burden of foreign taxation with little resistance. But when the ambitious King Antiochus enacted laws that restricted the rights of free worship, the people of Judea rose as one man to drive out the oppressive regime, to cleanse the Temple of impurities, and to restore free worship in the sanctuary.

It was a historic struggle, for it represented the first time in the record of man that a people were willing to stake their lives on the right to worship God according to the dictates of their conscience. Indeed, the challenge from the village of Modin, near Jerusalem, anticipated by over two millennia that article in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which proclaims:

"Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others, and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance."

In a real sense, the annual rekindling of the Maccabean lights is more than an act of historic reminiscence. It is a dramatic reminder that in many parts of the world suppression of religion still exists.

Hanukah is called the Feast of Rededication, the season when we renew our resolve to maintain freedom of worship in the face of suppression. The lessons of Hanukah have a particular relevance to our own

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—RABBI KERTZER *is Director of the Inter-religious Activities Division of the American Jewish Committee. He is the author of* What Is a Jew? *(World Publishing Company).*

Christmas

JOHN HAYNES HOLMES

CHRISTMAS IS NOT SO MUCH A DAY as it is a custom. It begins, of course, with a day — a specific item on the calendar. But what is remarkable about it is the habit of our lives during this brief period of time. For a few hours we are transformed, transfigured, as though the spirit of God were with us.

Christmas is the time when we find it "more blessed to give than to receive"—when we gladden our lives by blessing the lives of others.

Christmas is the time when we seek to make children happy, and ourselves become as little children in innocence and purity of heart.

Christmas is the time when we hang wreaths and light candles in the windows of our homes, to give hospitable greeting to strangers who may be passing by.

Christmas is the time when we ring chimes of bells in towers and steeples, that melody may flood the skies, and overflow into the hearts of all who hear.

Christmas is the time when we band together in choirs and sing carols in the streets, that men may be reminded of the night when angels sang from heaven of "peace on earth".

Christmas is the time when wars are for a few happy hours forgotten, and men for these same few hours disarm in trust and love, as on that first Christmas when, says Milton, in his *Ode on the Morning of Christ's Nativity*:

No war or battle's sound
Was heard the world around;
The idle spear and shield were high uphung;
The hook'd chariot stood,
Unstained with human blood,
The trumpet spake not to the arm'd throng;
The kings sat still, with awful eye,
As if they knew their sovran Lord was by.

The wonderful thing about Christmas is that it fulfills our dreams. It suspends our indifferences and selfishness and fears and hates, and makes men for an instant spiritually kin. No man must be hungry or homeless on this day, no child forlorn, no heart for-

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—DR. HOLMES *is the minister emeritus of Community Church New York City.*

ITEMS OF INTEREST

The Role of the Christian in the World for Peace

This 156-page symposium is based on the Silver Jubilee Conference of The Catholic Association for International Peace. Contributors analyze the current world situation with realism and deep understanding. The publication is comprehensive in scope, and should be stimulating for those who are genuinely concerned about attaining a larger measure of world order.

The book includes sections on relief and migration, food for the world, international economic life, technical assistance, the free world versus communism, the UN as a peace agency, public opinion and world order. A valuable book for reference purposes and also for the general reader. (Available from C.A.I.P., 1312 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington 5, D.C. $2.00.)

The Church and Economic Life

The common concern of American churchmen and American scholars in secular fields in exploring roads to world order and peace is reflected in the notable study of the ethics and economics of society undertaken by the Department of the Church and Economic Life of the Federal Council of Churches (now merged in the National Council).

The first three volumes of the study recently published by Harpers, include much discussion of worldwide relationships. The American economy is not treated in isolation. In *Goals of Economic Life* there are important contributions toward clarifying our thinking about America's responsibilities and opportunities as a member of the world community; for example, the chapters by Professors Boulding, Heimann, MacIver, Linton, Bennett, and Niebuhr. Other chapters by Professors Clark, Danhof, and Knight dwell relevantly on the foreign backgrounds of our economic theories and practices.

In *The Organizational Revolution,* by Professor Boulding, we have what Reinhold Niebuhr has called "a brilliant analysis of the growth of large-scale political, economic, and social organizations in modern technical society"; also, in that perspective, a spirited discussion of the consequent ethical problems and current critical issues.

In *Social Responsibilities of the Businessman,* Professor Bowen's analysis of the tension between self-interest and social obligation, with Dr. Ernest Johnson's provocative chapter on the ethical implications, there are only incidental references to the worldwide phases of social responsibility — but the connection is implicit.

A forthcoming volume on *American Income and Its Uses* and a summary volume dealing with both American internal stability and America's responsibility to the world of nations will represent further constructive exploration of this field.

European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms

The first legally binding, multi-national bill of human rights came into force when, on September 3, 1953, Luxembourg became the tenth member nation to ratify it. To become binding a convention of the Council of Europe requires ratification by two-thirds of the 15 Council members. This historic step is recognized by many European jurists as a highly significant advance in the development of international law.

The Convention, drafted by the Council of Europe and signed by its Committee of Ministers in November 1950, is designed to ensure the effective enjoyment by all persons within the contracting nations of the fundamental freedoms proclaimed in the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The preamble of the Convention ends with a specific reference to the aims of the Universal Declaration: "Being resolved, as the Governments of European countries which are like-minded and have a common heritage of political traditions, ideals, freedom and the rule of law, to take the first steps for the collective enforcement of certain of the rights stated in the Universal Declaration...."

This Convention represents the first measure to ensure effective implementation of the rights embodied in the Universal Declaration. It is especially fitting that one of the first moves of the Council of Europe should demonstrate its real intention to found its political expression upon these common cultural ideals.

Hanukah

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day. They remind us, in the first place, that the freedoms are indivisible and inextricably interwoven. The people of Judea, tolerant at first towards acts of political suppression, the denial of free speech, the withdrawal of the right of political representation, and finally, the refusal of the right to assemble freely, saw the natural sequel of events that led to religious totalitarianism.

Our modern Declaration of Human Rights recognizes the fact that all our rights are bound together, and that each of the thirty articles contained in the pronouncement are interrelated: violation of one aspect of the human rights leads inexorably to destruction of the rest.

Another lesson derived from the Hanukah epic is the role of leadership in the fashioning of human affairs. The igniting spark in ancient Judea was provided by a single family, Mattathias and his five sons. It was the challenge of a single voice: "Who is for the Lord, join me!" which moved the people to concerted action. In

Recommended Magazine Articles

Catholics and Isolationism by James O'Gara. (*The Commonweal,* November 13, 1953.)

Mr. O'Gara, *Commonweal's* Managing Editor, writes about the failure of many Catholics, some in positions of influence, to follow in their reactions to and pronouncements on current foreign policy issues, the teaching of the popes on international affairs. The modern popes have consistently "spoken against a spirit of national isolationism and selfishness in world affairs".

Alliances Endorsed by H. E. F. (*The Christian Century,* November 11, 1953.)

A report on the Fourth National Study Conference on the churches and world order, held in Cleveland in October under the auspices of the National Council of Churches. This issue also includes the closing statement made at the conference by Bishop Angus Dun.

The New Idolatry by John A. Mackay. (*Theology Today,* October 1953.)

A profound statement on the "passionate, unreflective opposition to the Communist demon" which "is coming to be regarded as the one and only true expression of Americanism and even of Christianity".

Can We Save the Bill of Human Rights? by Max Beer. (*Commentary,* October 1953.)

An excellent historical resume of action — and inaction — within the UN. Perhaps Mr. Beer underestimates the significance and influence of the Universal Declaration.

International Affairs — Christians in the Struggle for World Community by Werner Kagi. (*The Ecumenical Review,* October 1953.)

This article, together with the excellent historical statement in the same issue of the Review ("Our Ecumenical Heritage in International Affairs" by Richard M. Fagley), present some background for the preparatory work on the Evanston Assembly being done by the Commission on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches.

World Politics, US Policy and You by Ernest W. Lefever. (*The Intercollegian,* November 1953.)

A practical article, with concrete suggestions on how to influence USA foreign policy.

Church and State: An American Catholic Tradition by John Tracy Ellis. (*Harper's,* November 1953.)

A historical survey of statements on Church and State by the leading Catholic bishops over a century and a half. Father Ellis concludes: "The American hierarchy has always held, and still holds, that separation of Church and State in this country is the practical solution of this age-old problem; and nowhere will the student of American history find that the Holy See has ever rebuked them for their stand."

German Rearmament: Hopes and Fears by Axel von dem Bussche. (*Foreign Affairs,* October 1953.)

A former major in the German Army and an early member of the anti-Hitler underground movement analyzes in this article some of the possible results of and difficulties involved in German rearmament.

the complexity of modern living, there is a natural temptation to regard political and social forces as impersonal. The individual, we say, has no control over the course of human life. But the reading of the old Hanukah story should reinforce the old truth that a few emboldened souls, with courage, vision and tenacity of purpose, can make the difference between slavery or freedom.

There is nothing more contagious, the story tells us, than the enthusiasm of men and women whose lives are purposeful and whose objectives are clear. The preamble to the Human Rights Declaration speaks of "the common understanding of these rights and freedoms is of the greatest importance for the full realization of this pledge". The task of providing such understanding is the major responsibility of our leaders — the leaders in our pulpits, press, centers of education, and other mass media. I often wonder whether those who guide the destiny of modern mass media, for example, are fully appreciative of the moral responsibility that rests on their shoulders in this regard.

But over-reaching all the lessons that emerge from the ritual of the Feast of Lights is the message of the prophet Zechariah which is read annually during the Sabbath of the festival: "Not by might, not by power, but by My spirit, saith the Lord." The genesis of Hanukah is to be found in a military victory, but ancient Hebrew tradition, within a century after the birth of the celebration, transmuted the motif from an accent on force to an emphasis on the spiritual power. The early rabbis were concerned about the moral hazard involved in celebrating a military victory, and they enjoined the people to read Zechariah's teaching that man could not solve his problems by the sword. "Let not the wise man exult in his wisdom, nor the mighty man in his strength."

Christmas

(*Continued from page* 1)

saken, no race despised, no nation outlawed. We must be brothers all, as children all of the one Father, and must dwell together in His Kingdom. And the Kingdom comes on Christmas day in millions of human souls the world around, so that we see the glory ere it fades again "into the light of common day".

Christmas is the demonstration that
All we have willed or hoped or dreamed of good
Shall exist, not its semblance, but itself....

It is the proof that no hope is vain — that the highest vision may be made real. It is as though a spell were cast upon us, to save us for the instant from our cruelties and lusts, and make us ministers of love. The spell is fleeting — it passes quickly! But this means not at all that it is an illusion, but that, real for this one day, it may be caught, by the spiritual conjuration of our hearts, and be made real forever.

This is our task — to seize and hold and perpetuate the Christmastide. To live a life, and not merely a single day or season, which is delivered of prejudice and pride, hostility and hate, and committed to understanding, compassion, and goodwill! Then will there be no more Christian and pagan, Jew and Gentile, black and white, native and alien, or any other division, but only the human family, one as God is one, and heirs of his Kingdom.

THE UNITED NATIONS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

MARY P. LORD

One of the wisest decisions of the San Francisco Conference in 1945 was to include provisions concerning human rights in the Charter of the United Nations. This resulted in large measure from the influence of the non-governmental organizations, especially the religious groups, which were represented at San Francisco. The preamble of the Charter includes these inspiring words: "To reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small." Elsewhere the Charter specifies that the United Nations shall promote universal respect for human rights, and all Members "pledge themselves to take joint and separate action" in cooperation with the Organization to achieve this purpose.

The General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council were made responsible for promoting human rights, and the Council was directed in the Charter to set up a commission in this field. The Council established not only a Commission on Human Rights but also a Commission on the Status of Women. Both Commissions, composed of 18 members, prepare recommendations that are considered by the Economic and Social Council and later by the General Assembly. The Human Rights Commission in turn has established a Subcommission on the Prevention of Discrimination and the Protection of Minorities, a smaller body of twelve experts elected by the Commission. The Economic and Social Council, moreover, has given special attention to promoting freedom of information and appointed a Rapporteur to study every aspect of this basic human right. The Council will consider his report at its next session.

THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION

During its early years the Human Rights Commission prepared the draft text of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which the General Assembly proclaimed in 1948. This document contains the first international statement of human rights goals toward which the world should be moving. Article I states the moral foundation of all human rights. "All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood." One of its most important provisions is in Article 18: "Everyone has the right of freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or in private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance." This right, like the others in the Universal Declaration, is not a legal obligation upon States; it sets a criterion of conduct. Yet what a different world this would be if all States ensured their citizens this fundamental freedom!

For the past several years the Commission has been preparing two Draft Covenants of Human Rights — treaties by which States would accept the obligation to respect certain human rights. The present text of the Draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights contains, in Article 18, provisions concerning freedom of religion. The Commission has been asked to complete the two Covenants next year.

The new Administration in this country concluded last spring that the treaty approach was not the most desirable method of promoting human rights, and it stated that the United States would not become a party to the Covenants. Since the United States is a loyal Member of the United Nations, however, its representatives have continued to participate in the drafting of the Covenants.

A PROGRAM OF EDUCATION

It is the view of President Eisenhower and Secretary Dulles that much more can be done through education, persuasion, and exchange of information. Accordingly, they instructed me to introduce in the Commission on Human Rights three proposals for an action program. These proposals provided that each Member should submit an annual report on human rights in its territory, that the Commission each year should study one specific aspect of human rights (e.g. freedom of worship), and that technical assistance and advisory services should be extended to the whole field of human rights.

The Commission had time for only a brief debate on the first of these proposals, and the General Assembly at this session will have time only to hear the views of the various representatives. However, the present text of these proposals, which the Commission will consider at its 1954 session, reflects the comments and suggestions of many different delegations, several of the specialized agencies, the non-governmental organizations, and the Secretariat. No one has taken a deeper interest in this proposed action program, or given me more helpful suggestions about it, than the leaders of several religious non-governmental organizations — Catholic, Protestant, and Jewish.

EFFORTS TO CREATE CONDITIONS OF FREEDOM

Thus the Human Rights Commission, the Commission on the Status of Women, and other United Nations bodies have striven to create conditions of freedom and to set forth standards of liberty. In addition, the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council have turned the spotlight of public opinion on many kinds of violations in many parts of the world — including slavery, forced labor, violations of human rights provisions of peace treaties in Central Europe, and failure to repatriate or account for prisoners of war.

It is a tragic commentary on the state of civilization in the twentieth century to have to say that tyranny exists over a large part of the world and that even in the free nations, including our own, human rights are not uniformly respected. But it is heartening to know that vigorous and continued efforts are being made in the United Nations to safeguard liberty and promote human rights so that people everywhere may have their freedom to speak, write, and worship as they choose.

— MARY P. LORD (Mrs. Oswald B.) is an alternate Representative of the United States to the Eighth General Assembly, and United States Representative on the Human Rights Commission.

FOCUS> *on the Churches' Work for World Order*

An Irresistible Force

The Judeo-Christian heritage teaches us to focus our attention upon the dignity of the human person. Therefore, whenever we are true to our religious heritage, we express in word and action our lively concern for human rights not only within our country but also in every part of the world. A realistic approach to world affairs in general and to human rights specifically must deal with the revolutionary upheaval now taking place in major areas of the world.

* * *

One of the chief facts of our time is the ferment among peoples in technically less developed areas. This ferment is complex. It includes a passionate nationalism in rebellion against colonialism and domination in every form. It is a revolt against hunger and misery associated with feudal patterns and foreign or domestic exploitation. It is pervaded by resentment against racial arrogance and discriminatory practices of the dominant peoples of the West.

—A Message to the Churches from the National Study Conference on the Churches and World Order, Cleveland, October 1953.

* * *

The United Nations since its inception has understood that human rights must be ensured for all people if advances are to be made toward world order and peace with justice. The UN Commission on Human Rights has worked directly toward this end, but many other agencies have cooperated. To date perhaps the most significant contribution of the UN in this area is the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which has become in effect an international norm. Its impact has been considerable, though it does not bind upon nations an official obligation to practice the rights and freedoms which flow from the inherent dignity of the human person. In principle the signatories to the Declaration are morally committed to bring basic human rights to their peoples.

* * *

We recognize that world tensions must be eased in order to provide a climate in which adequate texts of the international covenants [of human rights] and measures of implementation may be completed, and their adoption by the UN and ratification by member governments secured. We are seriously concerned that the government of the US has given advance notice that it does not intend to ratify the covenants. We strongly oppose any tendency to reject in principle the device of an international covenant as one form of international action to promote the observance of human rights and we deplore the failure of Congress to ratify the Conventions on Genocide and the Political Rights of Women. At the same time, we welcome the initiative of our government in proposing an action program on human rights whereby the UN will enlist the cooperation of member governments and we express the hope that with necessary modifications it may be given effect.

—National Study Conference, Report of Section II, Cleveland, October 1953.

* * *

Many United States citizens are deeply troubled today about the threats to human rights in our own country. The way in which certain Congressional investigations have been carried on has jeopardized two fundamental rights of the USA citizen, the right of due process and the right of dissent. Americans must take a determined stand against all careless and scurrilous attacks upon the individual, lest their basic rights under our Constitution be seriously undermined.

* * *

Under the plea that the structure of American society is in imminent peril of being shattered by a satanic conspiracy, dangerous developments are taking place today in our national life. Favored by an atmosphere of intense disquiet and suspicion, a subtle but potent assault upon basic human rights is now in progress. Some Congressional inquiries have revealed a distinct tendency to become inquisitions. These inquisitions, which find their historic pattern in medieval Spain and in the tribunals of modern totalitarian states, begin to constitute a threat to freedom of thought in this country.

—The General Council of the Presbyterian Church in the USA, November 1953.

ON THE INTERNATIONAL SCENE

New Deal for the Philippines

The recent election of Ramon Magsaysay to the office of President of the Philippine Republic marks the end of an era in that country's politics. By a vote of two to one the people showed the desire for leadership with new young blood, imagination, and directness. Under the Roxases, Quezons, and Quirinos there was frequently more oratory than action. Considerable graft was in evidence at the local level of government. The frequency of appointments on the basis of family ties and friendship, not unknown in the USA, did not make for efficiency. The cause of old line politicians was not helped by many Filipinos' remembrance of their collaboration with the Japanese during the occupation.

Everyone breathes more easily now that the elections have been held with a minimum of violence and fraud. This election was in truth a test of the ability of the Filipinos to hold a free and democratic election. But the road ahead for the young and vigorous new president is not an easy one. Although the previous administration succeeded in strengthening the nation's economy, much remains to be done. The breaking of the Huks did not remove the causes for the popularity of that movement in Luzon. The key problem for Magsaysay is land reform. It is hoped that a bold and resourceful man such as the president-elect will institute new projects and expand old ones looking toward the benefit of the landless and the small land holder. The settlement and development of Mindanao, "the treasure chest of the Philippines", where the government owns large acreage, would seem to be one of the challenging projects that the new government could undertake to aid the discontented Philippine peasant.

UN Disarmament Commission

The UN Disarmament Commission was established two years ago on the initiative of the United States, Great Britain and France. Its formation grew out of the frustrating deadlock in the Atomic Energy Commission. The new commission, considering conventional as well as atomic weapons, could, it was hoped, make a fresh start with some promise of progress. Unfortunately the hopes have not been realized. During the past year virtually no progress has been made. The Political and Security Committee of the General Assembly must now vote on a recommendation to the Assembly for the Commission's continuance.

The question comes to mind, of course, as to why a frustrated and inactive body should be continued. From the standpoint of public opinion it is vital that no backward step be taken in the search for a reduction of arms. The failure to continue the Commission would most certainly be looked upon as a reversal and would add to the feeling of hopelessness of many people. It would also run counter to the sentiments of the USA Administration and the Senate. The President has pledged our Government to engage with any and all others in joint effort to remove the causes of mutual fear and distrust among nations, and so make possible drastic reductions of armaments. The Senate unanimously passed a resolution asserting its desire for a reduction of arms to enable the world's wealth to be used in a greater degree for "the wellbeing of mankind".

To indicate by dissolving the Disarmament Commission that a solution to the problem is impossible, would plunge the world more deeply into despair. The USA has rightly urged the continuation of the Commission.

The problem of our delegation and others at the UN is securing agreement to the continuation of the Commission with instructions that will not appear to the USSR to close the door on proposals that she may make in the future. One of the values of the UN is that it and its organs are always there to be used if the opportunity arises. As a nation we must not freeze our policy but remain flexible and willing to explore all proposals. As Ambassador Lodge said: "... In spite of everything, we still hope."

Elections in the Sudan

Ever since 1899 when Egypt and Britain signed an agreement to establish a condominium over the Sudan, that region has been a source of friction. With the growth of Egyptian nationalism, a movement to unite the Sudan and Egypt gained momentum. To all intents and purposes the Sudan has been an English colony in spite of the condominium status. This irritated Egypt and also stimulated independence movements in the Sudan. The situation was becoming explosive. After the new Prime Minister of Egypt, Naguib, had silenced opposition parties, he was able to bargain responsibly with the British for a settlement of the Sudan problem. He was able also to come to an agreement with the major Sudanese parties.

On February 12, 1953 Britain and Egypt agreed to a peaceful solution. In not more than three years the Sudan is to have self-determination. The present elections are being held to select a legislature. A British governor general will continue in power and exercise his rule subject to the approval of a mixed commission of two Sudanese, an Egyptian, a Briton and a Pakistani. The main tasks of the legislature in the three year transition period are to frame a constitution, draw up election laws and decide the future status of the Sudan: independence, membership in the British Commonwealth, or union with Egypt.

PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS

Human Rights Day

December 10, 1953 marks the fifth anniversary of the adoption, in 1948, of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Many nations and the UN have officially set December 10 as Human Rights day in honor of this milestone of human progress.

What Is Human Rights Day? Suggestions for Celebrations gives a number of practical suggestions for arranging a significant observance. Order from the Department of Public Information, United Nations, New York. Single copy free.

You Hold the Key to Human Rights. A guide to help leaders develop a dynamic Human Rights program on the community level. Lists source materials and other aids. Order from Women's Division of Christian Service, The Methodist Church, 7820 Reading Rd., Cincinnati 37, Ohio. 82 pp. 50 cents.

The Universal Declaration

Post in your church, synagogue, and library the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights. This attractive poster is available from the Department of Public Information, United Nations, N. Y. 10 cents.

Film Strip: "The Universal Declaration of Human Rights". A graphic presentation of the significance of this international standard. Provides an excellent introduction for discussion group meetings. Purchase from Text-Film Department, McGraw-Hill Book Co., 330 West 42nd St., New York 17. $3.00.

The Impact of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is a description of the influence of the Declaration on international organization, governments and individuals. Columbia University Press, 2960 Broadway, New York 27. 41 pp. 25 cents.

UNESCO and Human Rights

Three books on Human Rights are worth placing in your church, synagogue and community libraries, and deserve a note in your parish bulletin. (1) *A Fair World for All* by Dorothy Canfield Fisher, McGraw-Hill, $2.75. The Declaration is interpreted dramatically and warmly in terms of the everyday experiences of children. (2) *Statement on Race* by Ashley Montagu and Henry Schuman, Harper, $2.75. A discussion of UNESCO's 1951 statement on race, revised. (3) *Man's Most Dangerous Myth* by Ashley Montagu, Harper, $5.00. An analysis of the myth of "race".

One of the important tasks of the UN Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) is to develop educational programs on human rights in its 68 member states. A good way to keep informed about UNESCO's activities is to read *Courier*, its monthly journal. Order from Columbia University Press, 2960 Broadway, New York 27. $2.00 per year.

Bricker Amendment

The proposed Bricker Amendment will come before the next session of Congress for consideration. Citizens concerned about international affairs should study the proposal, carefully weighing the pro and con arguments. Dr. Henry Steele Commager, writing as a specialist in American history, has recently made a critical appraisal of the proposed Amendment. This article, a reprint from *The Reporter* magazine, is available from The Church Peace Union, 170 East 64th St., New York 21. $2.00 per 100 copies, plus postage.

Friendship Among Children and Youth (FACAY)

This Christmas is the ninth anniversary of the World Christmas Festival sponsored by the FACAY. Since 1945, when this organization was begun, this festival has been celebrated simultaneously in several countries. At the World Friendship Festival in December 1952, in Salzburg-Oberndorf, Austria, hundreds of young people from 12 nations enjoyed beautiful tokens of friendship from the US. Many nations have begun a mutual exchange of tokens of friendship during the Christmas season, and in this way a lively correspondence has grown across national boundaries.

FACAY has organized a program which facilitates sending gift parcels to needy children overseas. You can send your own gift package to Friendship Among Children and Youth's warehouse, 2331 12th Ave., New York 27. In addition, you can order "Share Your Friendship" packages and/or pairs of new leather shoes for $3.75 each. A "Share Your Friendship" package contains 12 new and useful items for boys and girls. Your name and address go into every package you order and packages may be ordered throughout the year.

The Christian and Foreign Policy

Out of the recent National Council Study Conference in Cleveland two important publications have developed: *The Christian Faith and International Responsibilities* gives a thorough coverage of major foreign policy issues facing our nation (available December 10); *We are Responsible* explains how the American Christian can be a more responsible citizen (available January 20). Designed as youth, student and adult study group material. Each pamphlet, 30 cents, 48 pp., from Department of Publication, National Council of Churches, 120 East 23rd Street, New York 10. Write for quantity discounts.

The first booklet will include the Message, the Section reports, the resolutions, and Bishop Dun's closing statement; the second is a study guide based on the foregoing materials.

SUGGESTED READING

The Captive Mind by Czeslaw Milosz. Knopf. 252 pp. $3.50.

Mr. Milosz, a Polish poet and author now living in Paris, aims in this book "to explain how the human mind functions in the people's democracies". A brilliant interpretation of the moral conflicts and intellectual condition of men and women in Eastern Europe.

The World Between the Wars by Quincy Howe. Simon and Schuster. 784 pp. $7.50.

In this second volume of *A World History of Our Times*, Mr. Howe continues his perceptive and engaging story of events and people that have helped mold the twentieth century.

The United States in World Affairs — 1952 by Richard P. Stebbins. Harper. 492 pp. $5.00.

The latest volume in the series of annual surveys of world affairs and USA foreign policy, prepared by Mr. Stebbins and the research staff of the Council on Foreign Relations. Valuable for the specialist and of interest to the general reader.

The Kingdom of God by John Bright. Abingdon-Cokesbury. 288 pp. $3.75.

An interpretation of the Biblical concept of the Kingdom of God, written by a scholar for the general reader of the Bible. An Abingdon-Cokesbury Award winner.

Civil Rights in the United States — 1952. American Jewish Congress and National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. 151 pp. 40 cents.

This fifth balance sheet of group relations in the USA is a valuable document for all who wish to keep up to date on the human rights situation in this country.

For More Than Bread by Clarence E. Pickett. Little, Brown. 433 pp. $5.00.

This interesting and informative history of the American Friends Service Committee is written from "an autobiographical point of view" by Mr. Pickett, executive secretary of the Committee from 1929 to 1952.

Robert M. LaFollette by Belle Case LaFollette and Fola LaFollette. Macmillan. 1305 pp. 2 Vol. $15.00.

A full-length biography of the Wisconsin fighter for American progressive democracy — written by his wife and daughter.

What Europe Thinks of America by James Burnham. John Day. 222 pp. $3.50.

A group of European friends of America tell us what they think of us in a frank and revealing manner.

The Universal God ed. by Carl Hermann Voss. World Publishing Co. 302 pp. $5.00.

This beautiful book stirs the soul as when "deep calleth unto deep". The treasures in this anthology were selected with wisdom and discrimination. Their arrangement is orderly and artistic. Religious experience is made richer and more vital as one joins the contributors and the editor in mankind's unending, yet immediately rewarding, quest for the Universal God.

Feeling and Form by Susanna K. Langer. Scribners. 431 pp. $7.00.

An important and absorbing book for the reader with a deep interest in the world of ideas, especially for those who have used with profit Mrs. Langer's earlier *Philosophy in a New Key*.

Economic Controls and Defense by Donald H. Wallace. Twentieth Century Fund. 260 pp. $2.00.

An appraisal of the dangers and possibilities of government controls and their vital relationship to a strong economy.

Ukraine Under the Soviets by Clarence A. Manning. Bookman Associates. 223 pp. $3.50.

This brief history of modern Ukraine offers deep insight in the methods used by the USSR to subjugate and control people with nationalistic aspirations.

Make the UN Effective for Peace by John Bower. Richard R. Smith. 160 pp. $2.50.

A thought-provoking plea for Charter revision.

Nationalism and Communism in East Asia by W. Macmahon Ball. Melbourne University Press. 210 pp. $4.50.

The author, a distinguished Australian, examines the revolutions in Asia and analyzes the reactions of the West to them.

Books Received

The Meaning of the Glorious Koran tr. by Mohammed Marmaduke Pickthall. American Library. 464 pp. 50 cents.

The Concept of Property in Modern Christian Thought by Frank Grace. University of Illinois. 173 pp.

A Faith to Proclaim by James S. Stewart. Scribners. 160 pp. $2.50.

Conversations With Kafka by Gustav Janouch. Praeger. 108 pp. $3.00.

Immortal Tidings in Mortal Hands by Arthur J. Moore. Abingdon-Cokesbury. 128 pp. $1.75.

The Theory of the Leisure Class by Thorstein Veblen. New American Library. 261 pp. 35 cents.

The Revolution in Physics by Louis De Broglie. Noonday. 310 pp. $4.50.

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